



3728

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3 Applicant:: Lau, David M. K. Division: 3728  
4 Serial No.: 10/076,761 Examiner: Bui, Luan Kim  
5 Filed: 02/12/2002  
6 For: Fold-Up Storage Container

7  
8 Honorable Commissioner of  
9 Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

10 Dear Sir:

11 RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

12 This communication is filed in response to an Official Action dated December 12,  
13 2003, in the above-identified patent application, that Official Action having a shortened  
14 statutory period for response set to expire on January 12, 2004.

15 Election With Traverse

16 In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner has required that the present  
17 application be restricted to one of the following inventions:

- 18 I. Claims 1-29 and 37-40 drawn to a combination of a storage container  
19 comprising a base panel, a plurality of side panels, a roof panel and  
20 connector means, classified in Class 206, subclass 600 and others.  
21 II. Claims 30-36 drawn to a sub-combination of a base without any details of  
22 a storage container, classified in Class 108, subclass unknown.

23 In response to the foregoing requirement, applicant elects Group I, containing  
24 Claims 1-29 and 37-40, and traverses the restriction requirement based upon the following:

25 Claims 30-36 are directed to an improvement in storage containers, not to non-  
26 analogous art such as bridges or covers. Moreover, Claim 30 recites an improved storage  
27 container with a base having precisely the same limitations as recited for the storage

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1 container of Claim 8, which is identified as being in Group I. Also, applicant is unaware of any  
2 use for the base recited in Claim 30 other than as part of a storage container. Finally,  
3 evaluating the patentability of Claim 8 necessitates a search of identical prior art areas to that  
4 required for evaluating the patentability of Claim 30. Therefore, it is respectfully requested  
5 that, in addition to claims in elected Group I, claims in non-elected Group II also be examined  
6 promptly on the merits.

7 Respectfully submitted,

8 *William L. Chapin*

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